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Central Intelligence Agency

Washington, D.C. 20505

OCA 86-4076
15 DEC 1986

The Honorable Don Edwards
Chairman
Subcommittee on Civil and
Constitutional Rights
Committee on the Judiciary
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Director Casey has asked me to respond to your letter of 5 November concerning the Central Intelligence Agency's interest in recruiting individuals with police or investigative skills.

While it is true that currently the Agency is interested in applicants who have investigative skills, particularly those which could be of assistance to United States Government's efforts to combat international terrorism, published reports have left a highly exaggerated impression of the scope of this effort.

I cannot, of course, discuss the specifics of the program (including hiring goals) in a communication of this nature. I can say, though, that it is very unlikely we would be hiring more than a few individuals from any one jurisdiction. Although the Agency believes that willing individuals should be able to avail themselves of the opportunity to serve their country in this fashion if they so choose, we are sensitive to the concerns of law enforcement agencies. This modest hiring program should not have any negative impact on these agencies' ability to meet their responsibilities. It will, however, mean a great deal to the Agency generally and to the United States Government's anti-terrorism effort.

Like any new employee, these individuals would serve the Agency wherever their skills could be most suitably employed, perhaps in the analytical field, perhaps in the operational field. While it is possible to train existing Agency

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Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2011/04/05 : CIA-RDP87B00858R000400570001-9

personnel, we believe it is more economical and efficient to take people already possessing the necessary skills and train them in the intelligence profession as we do with many other disciplines (e.g., engineers, physicists, linguists, etc.).

Although we anticipate that most (if not all) individuals will apply to be, and will be hired as, permanent Agency employees, a few may be accepted on temporary detail basis (with benefits in both instances provided accordingly). All hirees, however, will be employed directly by the Agency: while in Agency employment, there will be no working relationship with their former organization.

As with all Agency employees, these individuals will be instructed in the laws of the United States which govern intelligence activities and will be expected to adhere strictly to them in the performance of their duties. These laws include the prohibition, in Section 102 (d) (3) of the National Security Act of 1947, against Agency exercise of domestic law enforcement responsibilities.

We believe that the opportunity for these individuals to broaden themselves professionally through Agency employment will be of benefit to them as well as our country.

I trust this responds to the concerns you expressed.

Sincerely,

/s/ David D. Gries

David D. Gries
Director of Congressional Affairs

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Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2011/04/05 : CIA-RDP87B00858R000400570001-9

OCA 86-4076

Letter, Gries to Rep. Don Edwards on Police Recruiting

D/OP/RWMagee/sla/28 Nov 86:OCA/LEG [redacted]/11 Dec 86 STAT

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